

February 18, 2025

Senate Finance Committee

## SB793 - Public Health - Opioid Overdose Reversal Drugs

POSITION: FAVORABLE

Recovery Housing & Treatment Center Coalition of Maryland (RHTC) strongly supports Senate Bill 793 (SB793) – Public Health – Opioid Overdose Reversal Drugs. Our coalition represents recovery residences, group homes, treatment centers, and other essential services that contribute to the continuum of care throughout Maryland. We work diligently to educate policymakers, stakeholders, and communities on the importance of maintaining and expanding recovery facilities and services to support individuals in their journey to long-term recovery.

SB793 is a crucial step forward in addressing the ongoing opioid crisis that continues to devastate communities across our state. By requiring licensed healthcare providers to allow individuals to choose any formulation of FDA-approved opioid overdose reversal drugs, this legislation ensures greater access and flexibility in obtaining life-saving medication. As providers of comprehensive recovery services, we understand firsthand that barriers to accessing overdose reversal drugs can mean the difference between life and death for individuals struggling with substance use disorder.

Additionally, this bill protects private and public entities that prescribe and dispense opioid overdose reversal drugs from being mandated to stock all formulations. Many treatment centers and recovery housing facilities operate on limited resources, and this measure ensures that we can continue providing essential care without excessive financial or operational burdens.

For individuals in recovery, stability, safety, and timely intervention are critical. The passage of SB 793 aligns with our mission to support those in recovery, protect communities, and uphold Maryland's commitment to combating the opioid epidemic. By expanding access to opioid overdose reversal drugs, this bill will empower treatment providers, protect individuals at risk, and ultimately save lives.

We ask the Committee to support SB793 and take a decisive step toward enhancing Maryland's public health infrastructure.

For more information call or email:

Therese M. Hessler, Ashlar Government Relations | 301-503-2576 | therese@ashlargr.com